

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5427

E.O. 11652: GDS12/31/79

TAGS: MARR, APER, NATO

SUBJECT: POSITION OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, NATO INTEGRATED
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM MANAGEMENT AGENCY (DDG NICSMA)

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HILL FROM AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD

REFS: A. STATE 040805, 111529Z MAR 71

B. STATE 053695, 310217Z MAR 73

1. SUMMARY. CHAIRMAN NJCEC ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER 5 INTENTION TO DISCUSS AT EXECUTIVE SESSION OF NJCEC A RECOMMENDATION THAT NATO SECGEN REQUESTED U.S. AUTHORITIES TO EXTEND GEN LOTZ'S ASSIGNMENT UNTIL JULY 1975. IN THIS MANNER USNATO FIRST LEARNED THAT LTG WALTER E. LOTZ, JR., USA, DDG NICSMA, HAS PLANNED TO RETIRE FROM ACTIVE SERVICE AND THUS VACATE THE POSITION OF DDG NICSMA IN JULY 1974. BECAUSE OF NEED FOR EXPERTISE DURING CRITICAL PHASE OF NICS PLANNING, DIRECTOR GENERAL NICSMA(BUCHS) NOW DESIRES TO RETAIN LOTZ UNTIL JULY 1975. MISSION IS CONVINCED OF NEED TO KEEP THIS KEY POSITION FILLED BY U.S. NATIONAL.

ACTION REQUESTED: INSTRUCTIONS INDICATING WHETHER GEN LOTZ WILL REMAIN ON DUTY AS DDG NICSMA BEYOND JULY 1974, OR NAME OF QUALIFIED SUBSTITUTE. END SUMMARY.

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2. FROM BELATED AND FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION USNATO UNDERSTANDS THAT IN FEB 73, LTG WALTER E. LOTZ, JR, USA, DDG NICSMA, ADVISED CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY, AFTER PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH DG NICSMA AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (TELE-

COMMUNICATIONS) (RECHTIN), THAT HE WISHED TO VOLUNTARILY RETIRE FROM THE ARMY IN JULY 1974. IN SEPTEMBER, GEN LOTZ RECEIVED LETTER FROM CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY ADVISING THAT HIS RETIREMENT WAS APPROVED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1974. DG NICSMA DISCUSSED GEN LOTZ'S RETIREMENT PLANS WITH CHAIRMAN NJCEC AND NCSO POLICY COMMITTEE (MACBRIEN) DURING LUNCHEON MEETING AT TURN OF THIS MONTH. BOTH AGREED THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RETAIN LOTZ UNTIL JULY 1975.

3. MACBRIEN HELD PRIVATE MEETING WITH LTG GOULD, US REP TO NJCEC, ON NOV 5, DURING WHICH HE ASSERTED THAT IN ORIGINALLY SETTING UP POSTS OF DG AND DDG, IT WAS INFORMALLY AGREED IN THE WORKING GROUP THAT DDG WOULD SERVE FOR PERIOD OF 4 YEARS AND DG FOR 5 YEARS, THUS PROVIDING FOR OVERLAP IN THESE TWO TOP NICSMA POSITIONS.

COMMENT: MISSION FILES DO NOT DISCLOSE ANY SUCH AGREEMENT. END COMMENT. MACBRIEN FURTHER SAID THAT, UNLESS GEN GOULD COULD GUARANTEE RETENTION OF GEN LOTZ, MACBRIEN INTENDED TO CONVENE NJCEC IN EXECUTIVE SESSION (PRINCIPALS ONLY) TO OBTAIN NCEC AGREEMENT FOR PREPARATION OF LETTER TO SEC GEN LUNS TO AMB RUMSFELD REQUESTING RETENTION OF LOTZ UNTIL JULY 1975. ALTHOUGH SYMPATHETIC TO RETENTION OF LOTZ, GOULD AGRUED AGAINST PROPOSED PROCEDURE, URGING THAT MATTER SHOULD BE KEPT IN US CHANNELS. HOWEVER, WHEN GOULD AFFIRMED THAT AS DIRECTOR DCA HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO ASSURE THAT USG WOULD EXTEND LOTZ'S TOUR, MACBRIEN INSISTED ON CONVENING NJCEC EXECUTIVE SESSION.

4. AT CLOSE OF NOV 6 NJCEC MORNING SESSION, MACBRIEN CONVENED EXECUTIVE SESSION AND NJCEC AGREED TO HIS PROPOSAL.

5. IF GEN LOTZ RETIRES, SEC GEN WOULD NORMALLY REQUEST NATIONS TO NOMINATE REPLACEMENT, WITH NO GUARANTEE THAT U.S. NOMINEE WOULD BE SELECTED. MISSION REMAINS CONVINCED THAT POSITION OF EITHER DG NICSMA OR DDG NICSMA SHOULD BE FILLED BY U.S. FOR SAME REASONS ENUNCIATED BY SECDEF LAIRD IN PERSONAL MESSAGE TO FRG MOD SCHMIDT DATED MARCH 11, 1971 (REF A WHICH IS PERTINENT).

6. ON RECEIPT OF SYG'S EXPECTED REQUEST (PARA 3 ABOVE), USNATO CONFIDENTIAL

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SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO INFORM SYG OF GEN LOTZ'S CONTINUED AVAILABILITY IN DDG NICSMA POSITION OR NAME OF QUALIFIED SUBSTITUTE. LOTZ HAS TOLD MISSION HE IS AGREEABLE TO REMAIN.

7. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL STATE 53695(REF B) WHICH INSTRUCTED USNATO TO PROPOSE NAME OF GEN LOTZ AS USG CANDIDATE FOR POSITION OF DDG NICSMA. I AM AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND WHY U.S. OFFICIALS, IGNORING THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE USG ATTACHES TO NICS AND FORMER SECRETARY LAIRD'S EXPLICIT WISH TO MAINTAIN A U.S. NATIONAL IN THE NUMBER TWO POSITION, ACCEDED TO GEN LOTZ'S REQUEST FOR RETIREMENT WITHOUT IMMEDIATELY PUTTING FORWARD THE NAME OF A QUALIFIED U.S. SUBSTITUTE.

END COMMENT.

RUMSFELD

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